

VZCZCXRO0352
OO RUEHNH
DE RUEHML #0038 0051018
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 051018Z JAN 07
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4457
INFO RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA IMMEDIATE 0077
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHHMUNA/CDRUSPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MANILA 000038

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [CASC](#) [KCRM](#) [RP](#)
SUBJECT: MARINE CASE UPDATE 01/05/07

REF: MANILA 0015 AND PREVIOUS

¶1. (U) Lance Corporal Daniel J. Smith, back in U.S. custody on Chancery grounds since December 29 (reftel), is in good health and spirits and settling into a daily routine, including exercise. He is detained in the same quarters where he spent the last year. As before his conviction, representatives from III MEF remain with him 24 hours a day. He receives visits from Philippine pastors and his lawyers.

¶2. (SBU) For the third time since Smith's transfer to U.S. custody, Philippine government officials from the Department of Interior and Local Government and Philippine National Police visited Smith January 5. DILG Undersecretary Corpus, head of the five-member Inspection and Monitoring Team, also conveyed a request from Presidential Political Advisor Claudio for photos of Smith's room in order to demonstrate to the media how basic it is, countering media speculation of luxurious accommodations. Embassy will provide photos on January 6. The photos will not include Smith himself.

¶3. (U) Approximately 30 protesters calling themselves the "League of Filipino Students" demonstrated near the U.S. Embassy on January 5. The demonstration was peaceful and police dispersed them without incident.

¶4. (U) In response to repeated media questioning about possible renegotiation of the Visiting Forces Agreement, Embassy spokesman has reiterated that any discussion of renegotiation is premature.

¶5. (U) LCpl. Smith's lawyers are currently working on an appeal of his conviction and plan soon to file it with the appellate court. They met with their client again on January 5 at the Embassy.

Visit Embassy Manila's Classified SIPRNET website:
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eap/manila/index.cfm>

You can also access this site through the State Department's
Classified SIPRNET website:
[http:// www.state.sgov.gov/](http://www.state.sgov.gov/)

